

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. **(Currently amended)** An expandable ~~Expandable~~ stent for insertion into a body passage ~~having~~ comprising:
a mesh structure of interconnecting portions ~~(6)~~ joined together by joining portions ~~(5)~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said stent, when inserted into said body passage, is adapted to dissolve into smaller parts, and wherein the joining portions dissolve[[s]] faster than the interconnecting portions.
2. **(Currently amended)** An expandable ~~Expandable~~ stent according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein:
~~the and that~~ the joining portions are made from a first material and the interconnecting portions are made from a second material different from said first material, and wherein the first material dissolves faster than said second material.
3. **(Currently amended)** An expandable ~~Expandable~~ stent according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein:
the mesh structure makes the stent to dissolve in such a way that the longitudinal structural integrity initially is decreased.
4. **(Currently amended)** An expandable ~~Expandable~~ stent according to claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein:
the longitudinal structural integrity decreases faster than the radial structural integrity decreases.
5. **(Currently amended)** An expandable ~~Expandable~~ stent according to claim 4, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein:

the radial structural integrity is related to the forces exerted by the stent towards the body passage wall.

6. **(Currently amended)** An expandable ~~Expandable~~ stent according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein:

said smaller parts have an essentially cylindrical shape.

7. **(Currently amended)** An expandable ~~Expandable~~ stent according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein:

said smaller parts are essentially ring-shaped.

8. **(Currently amended)** An expandable ~~Expandable~~ stent according to claim 4 ~~2~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein:

said first material is a resorbable polymer.

9. **(Currently amended)** An expandable ~~Expandable~~ stent according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein:

said interconnecting portions ~~being~~ are straight.

10. **(Currently amended)** An expandable ~~Expandable~~ stent according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein:

said interconnecting portions ~~being~~ are curve-shaped.

11. **(Currently amended)** An expandable ~~Expandable~~ stent according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein:

said joining portions are made of metal.

12. **(Currently amended)** An expandable ~~Expandable~~ stent according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein:

said interconnecting portions are made of metal.

13. **(Currently amended)** An expandable ~~Expandable~~ stent according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein:

said joining portions and interconnecting portions are made of different metals, a first metal and a second metal, respectively.

14. **(Currently amended)** An expandable ~~Expandable~~ stent (3; 7) according to claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein:

said first and second metals have different electrochemical potentials, thereby forming a galvanic element that drives an electrochemical process in which the first metal is consumed inside said body passage.

15. **(Currently amended)** An expandable ~~Expandable~~ stent (3; 7) according to claim 14, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein:

the first metal is consumed in said electrochemical process after a pre-defined time inside said body passage.

16. **(Currently amended)** An expandable ~~Expandable~~ stent (3; 7) according to claim 14, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein:

the second metal dissolves by corrosion inside said body passage.

17. **(Currently amended)** An expandable ~~Expandable~~ stent (3; 7) according to claim 14, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein:

the second metal dissolves by corrosion after a pre-defined time inside said body passage.

18. **(Currently amended)** An expandable ~~Expandable~~ stent (7) according to claim ~~34~~ 43, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein:

the second metal is provided as a thin layer on the first metal.

19. **(Currently amended)** An expandable ~~Expandable~~ stent (7) according to claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein:

the second metal is provided as a thin layer on selected parts of the first metal.

20. **(Currently amended)** An expandable ~~Expandable~~ stent according to claim 34 43, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein:

the second metal is provided as granules or cells within the first metal.

21. **(Currently amended)** An expandable ~~Expandable~~ stent according to claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein:

the first metal and the second metal are in the form of an alloy or a compound.

22. **(Currently amended)** An expandable ~~Expandable~~ stent according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein:

the stent comprises more than two metals, all of which have different electrochemical potentials, thereby forming galvanic elements that each drives a respective electrochemical process in which the metal having the lower electrochemical potential is consumed.

23. **(Currently amended)** An expandable ~~Expandable~~ stent according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein:

the joining portions and the interconnecting portions are made from the same material.

24. **(Currently amended)** An expandable ~~Expandable~~ stent according to claim 23, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein:

said material is a metal.

25. **(Currently amended)** An expandable ~~Expandable~~ stent according to claim 24, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein:

said metal dissolves by corrosion inside said body passage.

26. **(Cancelled.)**

27. **(Currently amended)** An expandable ~~Expandable~~ stent according to claim 26, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein:

the joining portions have a higher porosity compared to the interconnecting portions.

28. **(Currently amended)** An expandable ~~Expandable~~ stent according to claim 26, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein:

joining portions have a smaller radial thickness as compared to the radial thickness of the interconnecting portions.

29. **(Currently amended)** An expandable ~~Expandable~~ stent (1; 3; 7) according to claim 24, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein:

said metal dissolves by corrosion after a pre-defined time inside said body passage.

30. **(Currently amended)** ~~Method~~ A method for the manufacturing of an expandable metal stent for insertion into a body passage, comprising the steps of:
providing a tube of a first metal, the outer surface and/or the inner surface of the tube being coated with a layer of a second metal, the second metal having an electrochemical potential that differs from the electrochemical potential of the first metal; and

making an expandable metal stent from the tube, the stent having a mesh structure of interconnecting portions (6) joined together by joining portions (5), said stent, when inserted into said body passage, is adapted to dissolve into smaller parts, wherein the joining portions dissolve[[s]] faster than the interconnecting portions, the stent comprises a first metal and a second metal, the second metal having an electrochemical potential that differs from the electrochemical potential of the first metal, and wherein said method includes that the metal stent (7) is made

~~from a tube of the first metal, the outer surface and/or the inner surface of the tube being coated with a layer of the second metal.~~

31. **(Currently amended)** ~~Method A method~~ according to claim 30, ~~further characterized in that wherein:~~

the tube, which is made of the first metal, is coated with layers of several metals, all of which have different electrochemical potentials.

32. **(Currently amended)** ~~Method A method~~ according to claim 30, ~~characterized in that wherein:~~

said manufacturing involves laser cutting or etching.

33. **(New)** An expandable stent according to claim 1, wherein:
said stent comprises a first metal and a second metal.

34. **(New)** An expandable stent according to claim 33, wherein:
said first and second metals have different electrochemical potentials, thereby forming a galvanic element that drives an electrochemical process in which the first metal is consumed inside said body passage.

35. **(New)** An expandable stent according to claim 34, wherein:
the first metal is consumed in said electrochemical process after a pre-defined time inside said body passage.

36. **(New)** An expandable stent according to claim 34, wherein:
the second metal dissolves by corrosion inside said body passage.

37. **(New)** An expandable stent according to claim 34, wherein:
the second metal dissolves by corrosion after a pre-defined time inside said body passage.

38. **(New)** An expandable stent according to claim 34, wherein:
the second metal is provided as a thin layer on selected parts of the first metal.
39. **(New)** An expandable stent according to claim 34, wherein:
the second metal is provided at selected parts of the first metal.
40. **(New)** An expandable stent according to claim 34, wherein:
the first metal and the second metal are in the form of an alloy or a compound.